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April 5, 2006

Dr. Jeffrey P. Koenings, Director Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife 600 Capitol Way North Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Dear Jeff:

I appreciate your willingness to serve on the Columbia River Hatchery Reform Steering Committee.

The goal of this project is to develop a management approach that allows Tribal, State and Federal managers to effectively manage Columbia River Basin hatcheries to meet conservation and harvest goals consistent with their respective legal responsibilities. This will require a sequence of decisions to be made that:

- a. are based on broad policy agreements and,
- b. are supported by consistent technical information about hatcheries, habitat and harvest.

It is envisioned that the Steering Committee will meet regularly to provide advice to the project team and the HSRG on the coordination and progress of this project. Members of the committee will be briefed on the status of the scientific reviews and tool development, schedules and work plans, and any related issues that arise in this process. We would like members to help frame the strategy for addressing the overall effort and keep their governments advised of the progress being made. They will also ensure this is an effective, collaborative process, and help transition the scientific group's recommendations into a performance based management system as a conduit to implementing hatchery reforms.

All of the members are very busy and have numerous processes they are involved in. Because of this, I envision this committee only meeting every two months or as needed. I will facilitate these meetings and Bj Mirk will help coordinate meeting notices and agendas, and

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April 5, 2006 Page 2

develop decision notes from each meeting. Bj can be contacted at 253-620-6422 or at bmirk@gth-law.com.

Again, thank you for agreeing to serve on this committee. Your expertise in the Columbia Basin and advice on hatchery and harvest issues in particular, will be extremely valuable to us as we move forward. We will contact you soon to schedule the first meeting.

Sincerely,

James C. Waldo

JCW:mjs